

## **Legal Notice**

### **Comprehensive Five-Year Bond Review for Paramount Equipment (Hard Rock Mining Operating Permit No. 00172)**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is conducting a comprehensive bond review for Paramount Equipment, LLC, dba MT Solid Rock Quarry (Paramount). Paramount is authorized to operate three quarries for the mining of rock products under Operating Permit No. 00172. All three sites are located on private property in Sanders County, MT. Two sites are located in Section 1, T20N, 27W, approximately 6 miles northwest of Plains. One site is located in Section 17, T21N R28W, approximately 6 miles east of Thompson Falls.

DEQ has determined that the current bonding level does not represent the present costs of compliance with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, administrative rules adopted thereunder, and the operating permit. DEQ is proposing to increase the bond by \$24,062, bringing the total bond to \$235,093. The bond increase is largely due to changes in fuel prices, equipment rates, and updated indirect costs such as mobilization, contingency, and administration.

The procedure for adjusting bonds as a result of a comprehensive bond review is set forth in Section 82-4-338(3), MCA. The company and the public will have until June 20, 2023, to comment on the proposed bond increase. DEQ will issue a final bond determination after the comment period has expired. The company, or any person with an interest that may be adversely affected by DEQ's final bond determination, may obtain a contested case hearing before the Board of Environmental Review. A written request for a hearing must be filed with DEQ within 30 days of the issuance of the final bond determination, stating the reason for the request.

Requests for copies of the bond calculation associated with the comprehensive bond review, and any related questions should be directed to Eric Dahlgren, Hard Rock Mining Section Supervisor, Mining Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, by telephone at (406) 444-5245 or by e-mail at [edahlgren@mt.gov](mailto:edahlgren@mt.gov).